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Determination of global fundamental geospatial data themes

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Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report prepared by the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe. The report is available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the progress made by the working group on global fundamental geospatial data themes.

Summary of the report

At its fifth session, held in New York from 5 to 7 August 2015, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 5/103, in which it agreed that there was an urgent need for a set of global fundamental geospatial data themes that could be harmonized in order to enable the measurement, monitoring and management of sustainable development in a consistent way over time and to facilitate evidence-based decision-making and policymaking. The Committee of Experts supported the initiative proposed by the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe to establish and lead a working group to liaise with the other four regional committees in order to bring together information on the consideration of fundamental geospatial data themes and to lead discussions between interested Member States and observers, with a view to developing an agreed minimum set of global fundamental geospatial data themes.

* E/C.20/2016/1.

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In its report, the regional committee for Europe outlines the actions it has carried out to advance the work on the determination of fundamental geospatial data themes at the global level. It describes the formation of the working group, delineates its terms of reference and the work plan and outlines the proposed deliverables of the group. It also provides an overview of the global consultations the working group has engaged in during the past year, including by initiating contact with the five regional committees and by hosting two consultative workshops as side meetings at major global geospatial events to consult with interested Member States and observers, with a view to developing an agreed minimum set of global fundamental geospatial data themes.